

COVID-19

JB Pritzker, Governor

Ngozi O. Ezike, MD, Director

12/14/2020

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PROCLAMATION TO INVOKE EMERGENCY POWERS TO MODIFY THE PROFESSIONAL SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act (20 ILCS 3305/7), the Governor of the State of Illinois has issued a proclamation declaring that a public health emergency related to the SARS-CoV-2 virus exists within the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law (20 ILCS 2310/2310-625), upon the proclamation by the Governor, the Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health (Department) has emergency powers which shall be exercised in coordination with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR); and

WHEREAS, the Director's emergency powers pursuant to the Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law (20 ILCS 2310/2310-625) include the power to modify the scope of practice restrictions under the Emergency Medical Services Systems Act (EMS Act) (210 ILCS 50/et seq.) for any persons who are licensed under that Act (20 ILCS 2310/2310-625 (a)(2); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the EMS Act, the Department has the authority to license and regulate Emergency Medical Technicians, including the following categories of Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians and Emergency Medical Technicians - Intermediate; and

WHEREAS, the Department has coordinated the exercise of the Director's emergency powers related to the expansion of scope of practice for emergency medical technicians with IEMA and IDFPR; and

WHEREAS, the administration of both influenza vaccines and COVID-19 vaccines (collectively "vaccines") is necessary to combat or prevent the spread of the influenza virus and the COVID-19 virus to protect the public health;

THEREFORE, I, Ngozi O. Ezike, M.D., hereby order the following:

Section 3.55 of the EMS Act, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, are hereby modified to authorize individuals licensed or certified under the EMS Act as an Emergency Medical Technician – Intermediate or as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician to administer influenza vaccines and COVID-19 vaccines to persons over the age of six (6) years old, after successful completion of a Department approved vaccine training program, and as authorized by the EMS Medical Director for the jurisdiction where vaccinations are being administered.

Vaccinations administered by Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediates or Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians must be under the authorization of the EMS Medical Director. Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediates and Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians are prohibited from administering vaccines pursuant to this modified scope of practice except where they are: (1) acting under the authorization of the EMS Medical Director for their respective jurisdiction; (2) responding to a request for assistance from a certified local health department or hospital and; (3) working under the direction of IEMA and IDPH, an IEMA-certified emergency services and disaster agency, or a certified local health department that is enrolled in IDPH's immunization program and operating pursuant to a vaccine provider agreement with IDPH.

PROCLAIMED AND ISSUED BY:

Ngozi O. Ezike, M.D.,

Director, Illinois

Department of Public

Health